

BNL Contractors and Noise Exposure

- Two events recently occurred which could have resulted in personal overexposures to noise.
- These events were observed and interrupted by BNL Facility Support personnel.
- Due to the safety initiatives of these BNL employees, worker overexposures were prevented.
- Contractor work is included in reporting criteria for BNL

What caused these events to occur?

Did work planning fail?

How do we prevent these events in the future?

What does this mean to BNL?

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- Both events had work permits
- In each event the use of noise generating equipment was not specifically identified (pneumatic wrench and sawzall) along with controls for these operations
- Decision to use Hearing Protective Devices
 - Found unnecessary in one
 - Left to be determined in the other

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Recommendations

- When feasible specify the type of equipment and/or operations
- Change Management:
 - When undecided, specify hold points and decision maker – if question call S&H representative
 - Specify responsible individual for assessing changes in procedures or practices.
 - Hold daily briefing on activities and revise PPE as necessary